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**Patent Abstract**


EPA 2002-08-21 1046701/EP-A1 **METHOD AND DEVICE  
FOR PREVENTING OIL DEGRADATION**

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Kanagawa 244-0842 JP **DESG. COUNTRIES**- BE, CH,  
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Provided is a method for preventing degradation of oil, which  
comprises charging an inert gas into oil such as edible oil,  
and making the inert gas into fine bubbles in the oil to mix

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and disperse the fine bubbles therein. Preferably, the inert gas is charged into an optional portion of the circulation path while forcibly circulating the oil in a circulation path. It is advisable to filter the oil before charging the inert gas to remove impurities in the oil.

**EXEMPLARY CLAIMS-** A method for preventing degradation of an oil, which comprises charging an inert gas into oil, and making the inert gas into fine bubbles in said oil to mix and disperse the fine bubbles in said oil.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, wherein, while the oil is forcibly circulated in a circulation path, the inert gas is charged in an optional portion of the circulation path.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 2, wherein said oil is edible oil.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein impurities in said oil are removed through a filter, and said inert gas is then charged.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein the diameter of the bubbles of said inert gas is adjusted to between 10; -5 and 10; cm.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the mixing amount of said inert gas is between 5 and 25% by volume.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the diameter of the bubbles of said inert gas is between 10; -5 and 10; cm, and the mixing amount of said inert gas is between 5 and 25% by volume.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the oil to which said inert gas is charged is heated at 60 to 240.C.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein a voltage of 1,000 to 6,000 V is applied to the oil in which said inert gas has been charged.; The method for preventing degradation of oil as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein a voltage of 1, 000 to 6,000 V is applied to the oil in which said inert gas has been charged, and a current of 50 to 200 .A is passed through the oil.

**DESIGNATED COUNTRY(S)-** BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LI, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE

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